State Government by the Ministry of Finance on 31.3.2000. This was in addition to the allocation of Rs. 207.00 crore to the State under Calamity Relief Fund for 1999-2000.

Assessment of Average Rate of Crop Yield

†2911. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any assessment regarding average rate of crop yield in irrigated and non-irrigated land has been made by Government;

(b) if so, the rate of average crop yield of both the said areas separately; and

(c) the estimated average annual quantum of foodgrains in to be produced irrigated and non-irrigated areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) : (a) to (c) The Government have not made any official assessment of average rate of crop yield separately for irrigated and non-irrigated land at all-India level.

Suicide by Agricultural Labourers and Farmers

†2912. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK : PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the farmers and agricultural labourers who have committed suicide all over the country for last six months alongwith the name of the State where the cases of suicides are maximum;

(b) whether it is a fact that the incidents of suicides being committed by the farmers and agricultural labourers in Punjab are increasing as compared to those in the other States of the country;

(c) if so, the number of suicides committed by the farmers and agricultural labourers as on date and whether Government have identified the reasons therefor and taken any action to prevent the same; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) : (a) to (d) The Government of Andhra Pradesh had reported two cases of suicide by farmers during December 1999 due to failure of crops or indebtedness. The Government of Punjab has

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.